# Environmental Health Specialist Orientation

#### Michael Aylesworth

Director - Northern Regional Office and County Government Liaison for Northern Indiana Indiana Department of Environmental Management December 3, 2009

#### IDEM Mission

IDEM's mission is to implement federal and state regulations to protect human health and the environment while allowing the environmentally sound operations of industrial, agricultural, commercial and government activities vital to a prosperous economy.

#### Introduction to IDEM

- □ Created by the Indiana General Assembly in 1985
- Environmental management activities part of the Indiana State Department of Health prior to 1985
- 4 main divisions: Office of Air Quality (OAQ), Office of Water Quality (OWQ, Office of Land Quality (OLQ) and Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance (OPPTA)

#### IDEM Offices Located in Six Locations

Northern Regional Office 300 N. Michigan Street Suite 450 South Bend, IN 46601 574-245-4870 or 800-753-5519

Northwest Regional Office 8380 Louisiana Street Merrillville, IN 46410 219-757-0265 or 888-209-8892

Southwest Regional Office 1120 N. Vincennes Ave. P.O. Box 128 Petersburg, IN 46567 812-380-2305 or 888-672-8323 Southeast Regional Office 820 Sweet Street Brownstown, IN 47220 812 358-2027 or 800 271-0074

#### **Indianapolis Offices:**

Indiana Government Center 100 N. Senate Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46204 317-232-8603 or 800-451-6027

Western Select Properties 2525 N. Shadeland Ave Indianapolis, IN 46219

# IDEM Regional Offices

#### **General Map of the Regional Service Areas**

but the map is amorphic depending on individual program needs.



# Office of Air Quality (OAQ)

- □ Implements the Federal Clean Air Act
- Issues permits for construction and operation to businesses with air emissions
- □ Inspects permitted sources for compliance
- □ Develops state implementation plans SIP'
- Monitors Indiana's air quality
- Air Pollution Control Board

# Office of Air Quality

■ OAQ coordinates with health departments on complaints that are health, environmental or nuisance related, such as open burning, fugitive dust, smoke and asbestos

□ Odor, noise, vibration, mold and unknown nuisance or health issues

# Open Burning & Fugitive Dust

- Local health and fire departments receive copies of our open burning brochure
- Fugitive dust is particulate matter visibly crossing property lines
- Report complaints to IDEM's Complaint Coordinator: 1-800-451-6027

#### Asbestos and Lead

■ IDEM licenses contractors for inspection and removal of asbestos

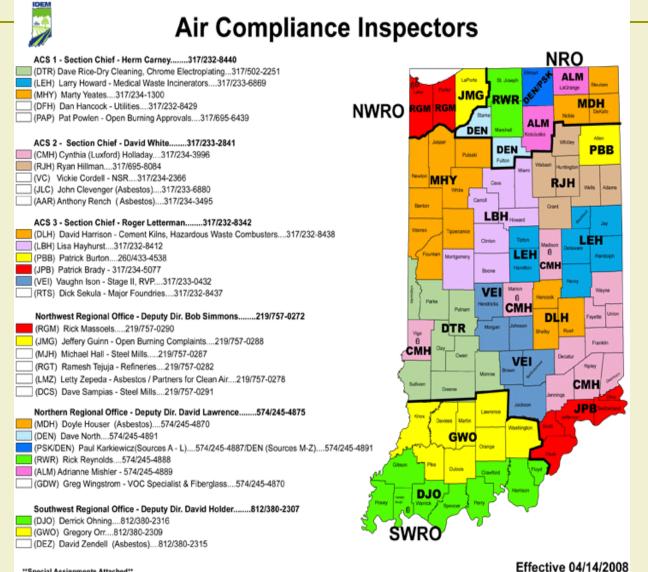
□ Currently have agreement to move lead program from IDEM to ISDH, 2008 legislation proposed to finalize move and it is now complete. ISDH now is the lead agency by a MOU

#### Local Air Pollution Control

Local Air Agencies formerly under contract with IDEM:

- Anderson Office of Air Management
- Evansville EPA
- Gary Department of Environmental Affairs
- □ Hammond Dept. of Environmental Management
- □ Indianapolis Office of Environmental Services
- Vigo County Air Pollution Control

# OAQ Compliance Inspector Areas



# Office of Land Quality (OLQ)

- □ Permits and inspects for compliance:
  - Facilities that treat, store or dispose of hazardous waste under federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
  - Facilities that process or dispose of solid waste, including municipal solid waste
  - Confined feeding operations, land application of bio-solids and industrial process waste products
- Emergency response to releases/spills of hazardous materials

### Office of Land Quality

- Regulates waste tire facilities and cleanup of illegal waste tire sites
- Manages state and federal land contamination cleanup programs
- Brownfields Program
- □ Solid Waste Management Board

### Office of Land Quality

□ OLQ works with health departments on complaints related to open dumping, auto salvage yards and emergency releases or spills

■ 2007 legislation regarding notice of UST release, spill or overfill

# Open Dumping

- OLQ handles open dumps at least half an acre or more that pose a special danger
- Local health departments (or local solid waste districts) responsible for dumps less than half an acre

# Auto Salvage Yards

- □ Inform IDEM of auto salvage complaints, we can help or may already be investigating
- We investigate all auto salvage complaints via a multi-media approach; partnered with BMV
- □ Training other counties to conduct auto salvage complaints utilizing the same multi-media approach—Marion County

### Emergency Response

□ Call "the Spill Line" at 1-888-233-7745 any time to report a spill

■ Local health departments often perform initial investigations

#### OLQ Compliance Inspector Areas



# Office of Water Quality (OWQ)

#### Drinking Water:

- □ Implements the federal Safe Drinking Water Act in Indiana
  - Permits and inspects community public water supply systems
  - Wellhead protection program for ground water systems
  - Certifies wastewater treatment and drinking water facility operators
  - Investigate complaints dealing with private wells

### Office of Water Quality

- □ Implements the federal Clean Water Act
- □ Permitting and compliance activities:
  - Federal wastewater discharge (NPDES) permit program
  - Wet weather CSOs and storm water runoff
  - Construction of sewer lines and wastewater treatment facilities
  - Wetlands
- Assesses the quality of surface water
- Water Pollution Control Board

### Office of Water Quality

■ OWQ works with health departments on water contamination from sewers or septic systems and on ground water contamination that may impact private wells

### Septic Systems

- Residential septic permits are issued by county health departments
- ISDH trains and provides technical assistance to county health departments regarding residential septic systems
- ISDH issues construction permits to all commercial on-site, non-discharging sewage disposal systems

#### Sewer Overflows

- □ There are two kinds of sewer systems:
  - Combined sewer systems carry sewage and storm water runoff CSO's
  - Sanitary sewer systems carry sewage separate from storm water SSO's

#### Combined Sewer Overflows

- □ CSOs may discharge into rivers and streams after a rain
- CSO communities must inform the public about the location of combined sewer outfalls and when they may overflow
- These communities must also be working to reduce or eliminate CSO discharges

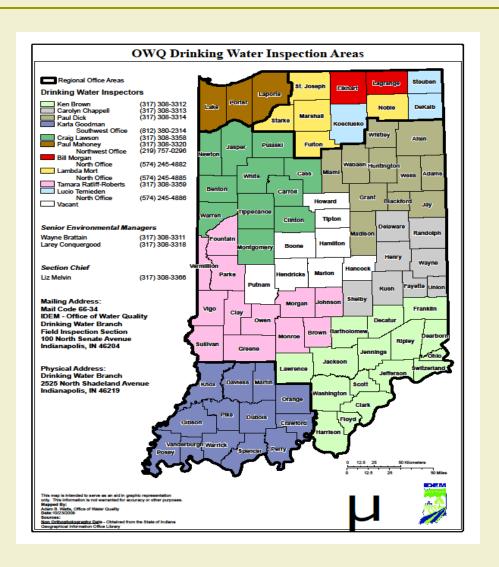
#### Sanitary Sewer Overflows

- SSOs are always a violation of water rules and must be reported to IDEM
- Weekly SSO reports on website: www.in.gov/idem/compliance/water/wastewater/compeval/ssoreport.html
- To provide information on unreported releases, contact Gary Starks: 317-232-8694 or gstarks@idem.in.gov

#### Private Water Wells

- □ The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Water, regulates the construction (drilling) and closing of water wells
- □ Drillers of wells for public water supplies must be licensed by the DNR
- IDEM investigates groundwater contamination and water quality
- □ Local health departments test private wells

# Drinking Water Compl Insp Areas



#### Wetlands Compliance Inspector Areas



# Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance (OPPTA)

- □ Free, confidential compliance assistance
- □ Provides funding for source reduction, pollution prevention and recycling initiatives
- Manages community right-to-know provisions for releases
- Works with the state's solid waste management districts on solid waste recycling/diversion

# IDEM Referrals to Local Health Departments:

- □ Complaints about:
  - Residential septic systems
  - Garbage at a residence
  - An open dump less than half an acre
  - Overgrown vegetation at a residence
  - Mosquitoes
- Copy on referrals to the Office of Compliance and Enforcement or violation letters
- □ UST spill/release notification

# Local Health Department Referrals to IDEM:

- □ Complaints about:
  - Pollutants running into waters of the state
    - □ Call IDEM's Spill Line: 1-888-233-7745
  - Surface water quality, non-emergency
  - Confined feeding operations
  - Waste tire piles
  - An open dump larger than half an acre

# Local Health Department Referrals to IDEM:

#### □ Complaint about:

- Auto salvage yard
- Illegal septic hauler activity, land application of waste (manure, septage, etc.)
- burying any kind of building structure
- Open burning of trash
- Odor: IDEM does not regulate, but either health department or IDEM may follow-up on cause of the odor

#### With Questions or to Refer a Complaint

□ Contact IDEM's complaint coordinator: 1-800-451-6027

□ Contact the IDEM inspector for the area

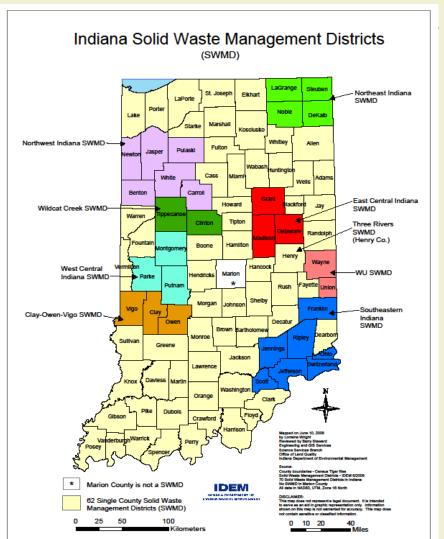
□ Visit IDEM's website, <a href="www.idem.in.gov">www.idem.in.gov</a>
for more information

#### Other Referral Points:

- □ Complaint about medical waste or radiation, contact the State Department of Health
- □ Complaint about dead animals, contact the State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) 317-227-0300
  - When on a road or highway, contact the appropriate transportation authority

#### Indiana Solid Waste Management Districts

- Separate Entities
- Legislatively Mandated
- Empowered by County
- Boards of Commissioners



# Contact Information of Presenter

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